UNITED NATIONS

A S

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/48/209
S/25937
14 June 1993
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-eighth session
Items 34, 35, 42, 75, 86, 92 and 149
of the preliminary list*
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST
QUESTION OF PALESTINE
THE SITUATION IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA
CONVENTION ON PROHIBITIONS OR RESTRICTIONS ON THE USE OF CERTAIN CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS WHICH MAY BE DEEMED TO BE EXCESSIVELY INJURIOUS OR TO HAVE INDISCRIMINATE EFFECTS
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REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND ON THE STRENGTHENING OF THE ROLE OF THE ORGANIZATION

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-eighth year

Letter dated 14 June 1993 from the Permanent Representative of the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith the Arabic text of the final statement issued on the outcome of the work of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Damascus Declaration States at their meeting held at Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, on 12 and 13 June 1993.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under items 34, 35, 42, 75, 86, 92 and 149 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mohammad J. SAMHAN
Permanent Representative

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ANNEX

Final statement by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Damascus Declaration States on their meeting held at Abu Dhabi on 12 and 13 June 1993

Their Highnesses and Their Excellencies the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Damascus Declaration States held their 7th meeting on Saturday and Sunday, 22 and 23 Dhu'lhijjah A.H. 1413, corresponding to 12 and 13 June 1993, at Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, under the chairmanship of His Excellency Rashid Abudllah al-Noaimi, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the United Arab Emirates, and in the presence of:

His Excellency Sheikh Mohammed Bin Mubarak Al Khalifa, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Bahrain;

His Royal Highness Prince Saud al-Faisal, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Saudi Arabia;

His Excellency Mr. Farouk al-Shara', Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Syrian Arab Republic;

His Excellency Yousef Bin al-Alawi Bin Abdulla, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Oman;

His Excellency Sheikh Hamad Bin Jassem Bin Jabr Al Thani, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Qatar;

His Excellency Sheikh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jaber al-Sabah, First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Kuwait;

His Excellency Mr. Amre Moussa, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Arab Republic of Egypt.

The Ministers reviewed the developments in the regional and international situation and noted with extreme concern that the Iraqi regime was continuing to procrastinate in the implementation of fundamental aspects of the Security Council resolutions relating to its aggression against Kuwait by its refusal to release detained and imprisoned Kuwaitis and nationals of third States, its refusal to be bound by the decisions of the United Nations technical commission to demarcate the boundary between the two countries, its failure to implement the Security Council resolutions concerning payment of compensation due by reason of its legal liability for the damage arising out of its aggression and its procrastination in returning all Kuwaiti property and in eliminating all weapons of mass destruction.

The Ministers condemn the Iraqi regime's continued issuance of hostile statements and the increase of threats against Kuwait and the States of the Gulf Cooperation Council, which present a threat to security and stability in the region. They affirm their full support for Kuwait in confronting these threats. They also express their satisfaction at the conclusion of the work of the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Boundary Demarcation Commission. The Ministers welcome

Security Council resolution 833 (1993), which gave final endorsement to the conclusions of the Iraq-Kuwait Boundary Demarcation Commission, guaranteeing the inviolability of the international boundary between the two countries under the provisions of Chapter VII of the Charter, because that resolution constitutes a genuine contribution to the promotion of security and stability in the region. The Ministers reaffirm their wholehearted desire for the unity and territorial integrity of Iraq and place on the Iraqi regime full responsibility for the suffering to which the Iraqi people is exposed as a result of refusal to implement the Security Council resolutions relating to its aggression against Kuwait.

The Ministers also reviewed the situation of relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran. In this connection, they state that the development of these relations is required by the principles of Islamic brotherhood and necessitates on the part of Iran respect for the principles of sovereignty and territorial integrity, non-intervention in the internal affairs of States and refraining from threats to stability and peace in the region. They have great hopes that this may be achieved in the future, which would serve the interests of all. The Ministers reaffirm their absolute support and backing for the sovereignty of the United Arab Emirates over its three islands, the Greater Tunb, the Lesser Tunb and Abu Musa, and reiterate their full support for all peaceful measures and means that may be adopted by the United Arab Emirates to recover its sovereignty over its three islands.

The Ministers observed with interest the desire of the two States to engage in further dialogue to deal with this problem.

The Ministers affirm their full solidarity and absolute support for the measures taken by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to ensure the safety of pilgrims to the Holy City of Makkah and to enable them to perform the obligation of the pilgrimage in safety, comfort and tranquillity, in accordance with the teachings of the Islamic religion.

The Ministers considered the developments in the peace process in the Middle East and reaffirmed the commitment of their States to support the peace negotiations aimed at arriving at a just and comprehensive solution to the Palestinian question and the Arab-Israeli conflict, on the basis of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967), 338 (1973) and 425 (1978), the principle of land for peace, the achievement of a complete Israeli withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories, including Jerusalem, the occupied Syrian Golan and southern Lebanon, the guaranteeing of the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people, including its right to self-determination and its establishment of its independent State on its national territory, in order to guarantee security and stability in the region.

The Ministers express their appreciation for the efforts being made by the two sponsors of the Peace Conference and call on the United States in particular to play the role of full partner and to develop it in an effective and objective way so as to ensure full and faithful adherence to the foundations, principles and authority of the Peace Conference, in particular the principle of land for peace and the implementation of the relevant Security Council resolutions.

The Ministers regard all of Israel's continued practices and acts of aggression against the Palestinian people and the Arab occupants of the Palestinian and Arab occupied territories as a flagrant violation of international law, the fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 and the principles and authority of the peace process and as a genuine threat to chances of success for this process, for which Israel bears responsibility vis-à-vis the international community. They also call on the Security Council to take practical and immediate measures for the implementation of resolution 799 (1992) for the return of the Palestinian deportees to their homes.

The Ministers welcome the coordination between the Arab States participating in the bilateral peace talks at their meeting held at Amman on 6 June 1992, with the participation of the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Arab Republic of Egypt, and the agreement to intensify contacts with the two sponsors of the peace process, with the aim of ensuring their serious intervention to achieve an essential advance in the talks.

The Ministers are following with extreme concern recent developments in Somalia that have become critical as a result of the attack on United Nations forces by certain Somali fighting groups and their failure to abide by the agreement concluded between the Somali groups. The Ministers also appeal to these groups to place the national interest first and abide by Security Council resolutions and United Nations efforts to ensure the achievement of security and stability in Somalia.

The Ministers followed with deep concern the continuing grievous human tragedy of the people of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina due to the continued evil aggression by Serbian irregular forces, supported by Serbia and Montenegro, in violation of United Nations instruments and international law and in defiance of international legitimacy.

The Ministers vehemently condemn the continued Serbian aggression against the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the perpetration by the Serbian forces of the most repugnant crimes of genocide, ethnic cleansing, which is a crime against humanity, arbitrary killings, organized rape, terrorism, displacement of persons, starvation and destruction of houses and places of worship. The Ministers urge the Security Council to take all necessary measures under Article 42 of Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter, including the lifting of the arms embargo imposed on the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina so as to enable it to exercise its right of self-defence and resort to military force, in order to restore international peace and security and to compel the forces of aggression to abide by the resolutions of international legitimacy, bar any reward of the aggressors by preventing changes in the demographic composition or territorial gains and to compel the Serbian forces to withdraw and respect the independence, sovereignty and unity of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

In this connection, the Ministers welcome the adoption by the Security Council of its resolution endorsing the use of military force to bring down Serbian aircraft violating the no-fly zone in the airspace of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, regarding this as a step in the right direction. The Ministers also express their satisfaction at the adoption last February of a Security Council resolution for the establishment of an international tribunal

for the prosecution of persons responsible for the crimes against humanity committed in Bosnia, in accordance with the Geneva Conventions. The Ministers urge the international community to tighten the sanctions and to increase the pressure on Serbia and Montenegro.

The Ministers welcomed the independence of the State of Eritrea and wish every success to this Eritrean leadership and prosperity to the Eritrean people. They hope that the independent State of Eritrea will be a positive addition and an effective factor for the establishment of security and stability in the region.

The Ministers expressed their thanks and appreciation to the Government and people of the United Arab Emirates for hosting this meeting and for the warm reception and generous hospitality that they received.

The Ministers welcomed the kind offer extended by the Syrian Arab Republic to host the next meeting of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the eight States in December 1993.